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Jackson Unhappy With Arms Briefing

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Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) yesterday promised "tough questions" for the Nixon administration at congressional hearings next week on the strategic arms limitation agreements with Moscow.

Voicing dissatisfaction with the White House briefings for key members of Congress on Thursday, Jackson said he plans to play the role of prosecuting attorney when the agreements come up before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The senator told the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists that he felt the Soviet Union would be 'more intransigent" and "difficult to handle" as a result of the agreements. He said they give Moscow the edge "in crucial categories of strategic offensive systems."

Jackson reiterated fears that election-year pressures led President Nixon to make damaging concessions.

A high-ranking member of the Armed Services Committee and dark-horse presidential hopeful, Jackson stopped short of saying he would vote against the agreements. He said he hoped he could support them.

But first, he said, he will try to find out "what concessions were made in Moscow in the last few hours, the nature of them and the extent of them."

Jackson said he is especially concerned over the lack of a specific limitation on the number of land-based missiles and the lack of any clear definition of what a "heavy missile" is.

He said he suspects that the Soviet Union agreed to a limitation on submarines because their construction could be easily monitored.

He felt Moscow balked at a definite limit on land-based missiles because these can be scattered over millions of square miles in areas that are covered by clouds "80 per cent of time."

White House national security adviser Henry A. Kissinger had told Jackson and his congressional colleagues Thursday that if intelligence showed the Soviets significantly exceeded the 1,618 missiles they are believed to have, then "the whole premise of the agreement will be in question," even without a specific limit. Jackson maintained yesterday, in effect, that American intelligence may find its surveillance efforts fruitless.

Hearings on the agreements will begin Monday before the senate Foreign Relations Committee with Secretary of State William P. Rogers as the leadoff witness. Gerard C. Smith, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, also will testify. On Wednesday Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird and Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will testify. Both hearings will be public. The Foreign Relations Committee said it also hopes to hear Central Intelligence Agency Director Richard Helms later in closed session.

The Armed Services Committee will meet Tuesday with Laird to hear about the impact of the agreements on the U. S. defense posture. The committee is marking up the [illegible] fiscal 1973.

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